Multiplying with Parentheses

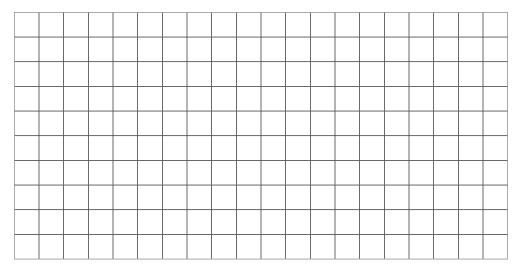
Paul's teacher wrote the following expression on the board for the class to simplify:

Here is an excerpt from Paul's notebook.

5(3 + 12)	
5 * 3 + 12	
15 + 12	
27	

What do you think of Paul's work? Explain your thinking.

Draw an area model of 5(3+12) below:



How many squares are there?